



**November 25, 2008**

ROME BALLROOM, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, STORRS

## **Public Benefits of Forests: What are They Worth?**

## Forum Sponsors

The Goodwin  
Collaborative Partners:

*Connecticut Forest & Park  
Association*

*Connecticut Department of  
Environmental Protection*

*University of Connecticut  
Cooperative Extension  
System*

*Connecticut Chapter, Society  
of American Foresters*

## Co-Sponsors

*Connecticut Chapter,  
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*Connecticut Urban Forest  
Council*

*Tree Wardens' Association  
of Connecticut*

# Public Benefits of Forests: What are They Worth?

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Forests are more than just places to put trails or cut logs or watch birds. They are complex ecosystems providing myriad functions, products and services, from cleaning our air and water to sequestering carbon. Forest ecosystem functions and services are essential to our communities, our economy and the quality of our lives. Yet as important as they are, they are seldom very well understood, and their value is almost never reflected in the traditional marketplace. As Connecticut's forests shrink and fragment, we may well be losing more than we realize.

The 2008 Forest Forum explores forest-derived "ecosystem services," and the benefits and challenges involved in valuing them and communicating their importance. The morning begins by introducing the concept and framing its importance at the local level in Connecticut. Then Dr. Robert Costanza, Director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics and a founder of the field, turns to valuing these services by integrating ecology and economics. Dr. David Newman closes the morning with a focus on local and state policy directions that might begin to correct the market failures which undervalue these services.

The afternoon sessions offer six outstanding choices that range across the priority issues identified in Connecticut's State Forest Resources Plan. Several involve the Connecticut Forest Council's active subcommittees, while another will begin the process of integrating the value of urban forest benefits into the Plan's upcoming revision. We are confident that our diverse co-sponsors can help lead to a new way of thinking and talking about forests in Connecticut.

# Forum Agenda

**8:00 - 8:50 am**    **Registration;** coffee, pastries and posters

**8:50 - 9 am**        **Welcome & Introductions**  
*Bill Bentley, Salmon Brook Associates*

**9:00 - 10:40**      **Opening Session - Moderator: John Volin**

- ***What have we got to lose?*** Understanding and communicating the importance of forest ecosystem services. *Steve Broderick and Thomas Worthley*
- ***Estimating and quantifying forest ecosystem services*** *Robert Costanza, Director, Gund Institute for Ecological Economics, University of Vermont*

**10:40 - 11:10**      **Coffee Break**

**11:10 - 12 noon**   **Continuation of opening Session**

- **Policy alternatives for transferring these values to forest owners and encouraging working forests.**  
*David Newman, Chair, Department of Forest and Natural Resource Management, SUNY-ESF*

**12:00 - 1:30**        **Buffet lunch**  
 Moderated lunch discussions, designed to further the upcoming revision of the CT Forest Resources Plan, will focus on the important benefits and services derived from forest ecosystems in Connecticut and who receives value from them.

**1:30 - 4:00 pm**    **Choose from six themed concurrent sessions,** each with a coffee/soda break from 2:30 to 3 pm:

***Planning and Policy:*** offered with guidance from the CT chapters of the American Planning Association and the American Society of Landscape Architects.  
*Moderator: Eric Hammerling*

**1:30 - 2:30** Northwest Connecticut Regional Planning Collaborative: a new cost-saving shared system for providing local planning services – *Tom McGowan*

**3:00 - 4:00** Measuring progress toward a sustainable economy, society and environment – *Maureen Hart*

***Research and Forest Health*** - this session will focus on ways to measure forest ecosystem health, functions and services in the field.  
*Moderators: Jeff Ward & Patrick Comins*

**1:30 - 2:00** Avian atlasing projects - *Chris Elphick*

**2:00 - 2:30** Connecticut Butterfly Atlas Project - *Jane O'Donnell*

**3:00 - 3:30** Mapping Connecticut's vegetative classes - *Ken Metzler*

**3:30 - 4:00** Predictive modeling and its application to invasive species in Connecticut - *John Silander*

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**Public Forest Stewardship** – Hear voices of experience describe their philosophies, successes and challenges in pro-actively managing various types of public forests.  
*Moderator: Don Smith*

**1:30 - 2:10** Planning and Management of Connecticut's State Forests - *Christopher Martin*

**2:10 - 2:30** Planning and Management of Municipal Forests - *Jennifer Kaufman*

**3:00 - 3:30** Planning and Management of Land Trust Forests - *Dave Schroeder and Vincent DeLuca*

**3:30 - 4:00** Panel discussion

**Forest Products Industry** - led by the Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association, Inc. (TIMPRO).  
*Moderator: Joan Nichols*

**1:30 - 2:00** Industry Operating Expenses and How They Impact Forestry – *Jeff Durst & Dale Horn*

**2:00 - 2:30** Forester/ Logger Relations – *Mike Bartlett & Paul Burke*

**3:00 - 3:30** Regulations and Legislation Affecting Forestry & Logging in Connecticut – *John Larkin & Steve Tessitore*

**3:30 - 4:00** Forest Products Market Conditions and Emerging Markets – *Lloyd Irland*

**Forest Recreation:** a roundtable followed by a public discussion on a downward spiral of recreation opportunities in Connecticut. Department of Environmental Protection representatives, school board and community leaders, healthcare workers, recreation advocates and environmental leaders will form a panel and lead the discussion.

**1:30 - 2:30 Panel discussion:**

- Are forest fragmentation, development (and even smart growth) limiting public access to recreation?
- Are smaller groups ignored or pushed aside (ATV users, horse owners, etc.)?
- DEP's budget – too small, too targeted, too controlled?
- Town Parks and Recreation departments – what part do they play in local and statewide decision-making?
- State Forests – commercial resources vs. public playgrounds – how does a recreation perspective vary from that of forestry and ecosystem health perspectives?
- Strengthening state recreation initiatives.
- What impact should recreational users have on policy and planning?

**3:00 - 4:00 Open discussion with audience**

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**Urban & Community Forestry** – Noticeably absent in the CT State Forest Resources Plan, this session brings us up to date on current urban forestry projects and science, and includes a discussion/planning session on what urban forestry issues should be included in the updated plan.

*Moderator: Bob Ricard*

**1:30 - 2:00** The Ecosystem Function of Hartford's Tree canopy – *Chris Donnelly*

**2:00 - 4:00** Facilitated panel discussion:

- *Helene Hochholzer*
- *Mary Ludwig*
- *Leslie Kane*
- *Colleen Murphy-Dunnin*
- *Christy Hass*
- *Greg Foran*

**Poster Sessions:** Several Posters will be on display during the day. Some are designed to gather information for coming update of Connecticut's 2004 State Forest Resource Plan. The posters will include:

- **Revision of CT Forest Resource Plan** – A questionnaire to gather information to guide the revision in late 2008/early 2009.
- **Private Land Stewardship** – Participants will be asked to rank statements that indicate their priority concerns
- **Poster displays** by other the Sponsors & Co-Sponsors and by the CFC committees.

## About the morning speakers

**Bill Bentley** is principal of Salmon Brook Associates and has co-chaired development of the Forest Conservation Forum since its inception in 2005.

**John Volin** is a forest ecologist and Head of the Dept. of Natural Resource Management and Engineering, UConn. Previously he was Director of Environmental Science Graduate Studies and Professor of Plant Ecology at Florida Atlantic University.

**Steve Broderick** is a Senior Extension Educator in Forestry and Natural Resources, and directs the Goodwin Forest Conservation Education Collaborative. He has co-chaired the Forum since it began in 2005.

**Tom Worthley** is UCONN Associate Extension Educator for Forest Stewardship and Sustainability. Having career experience with industry, consulting and education, he has recently coordinated the educational component of the CT Forest Stewardship Program.

**Robert Costanza** is the Gund Professor of Ecological Economics and Director of the Gund Institute for Ecological Economics at the University of Vermont. Previously he was director of the University of Maryland Institute for Ecological Economics.

**David Newman** is the chair of the Department of Forest and Natural Resource Management at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse NY. Previously at the University of Georgia he was a professor and associate dean of graduate studies at the school of forestry resources.

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## About our afternoon speakers

**Mike Bartlett**, CT Certified Forester, is Head Forester with Hull Forest Products, Inc. in Pomfret.

**Paul Burke** is the owner of Old Miriah's Logging, Dayville, CT. He is a Master Logger, the 2006 National "Game of Logging" Champion, and Vice-Pres. of the CT Professional Timber Producers Association.

**Patrick Comins** is the Director of Bird Conservation for Connecticut Audubon and the Chair of the Connecticut Forestlands Council's Forest Ecosystem Health Committee

**Vincent DeLuca** is the Stewardship Coordinator for both the Wolf Den and Branford Land Trusts.

**Chris Donnelly** is the Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator for the Connecticut DEP Division of Forestry.

**Jeff Durst** is the General Manager of Hull Forest Products, Inc. in Pomfret.

**Chris Elphick** is an Assistant Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UConn. His research specialty is conservation ecology of birds, especially in wetland and agricultural settings in Connecticut.

**Greg Foran** is President of the Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut, Inc

**Eric Hammerling** is Executive Director of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association. Previously he was Executive Director of the Farmington River Watershed Association.

**Maureen Hart** is principal of Sustainable Measures in West Hartford and author of A Guide to Sustainable Community Indicators.

**Christy Hass** is Tree Warden and Parks Supervisor in New Haven

**Helene Hochholzer** is the acting director of Private and Municipal Lands Programs for the Connecticut DEP Division of Forestry.

**Dale Horn** is co-owner of Wayne Horn Logging in Goshen CT.

**Lloyd Irland** is a visiting professor of forest management at Yale University and principal of The Irland Group in Maine.

**Leslie Kane** is a former municipal Tree Warden currently working for Connecticut Audubon.

**Jennifer Kaufman** is the Parks Coordinator for the Town of Mansfield.

**John Larkin** is a registered lobbyist and government liaison for the CT Forest & Park Association.

**Mary Ludwig** is President of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc.

**Christopher Martin** is the CT State Forester. He has a wide variety of experience with the Maine Forest Service, private consulting forestry and regional water companies in Connecticut.

**Tom McGowan**, AICP, is a consulting town planner for several communities in northwest Connecticut.

**Ken Metzler** is an ecologist with the Connecticut DEP Wildlife Division. Ken co-authored "The Vegetation of Connecticut: A Preliminary Classification", which is the starting point for mapping key habitats for species with greatest conservation risk.

**Colleen Murphy-Dunning** is the Program Director, Urban Resources Initiative, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

**Joan Nichols**, CT Certified Forester, is co-owner of Nichols Forestry and Logging in Lebanon, and President of the CT Professional Timber Producers Association.

**Jane O'Donnell** is Collections Manager, Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UConn.

**Bob Ricard** is Senior Extension Educator in Urban and Community Forestry at the University of Connecticut.

**Dave Schroeder** is the Chairman of the Wolf Den Land Trust and former Head of the Dept of Natural Resources Management and Engineering at UConn.

**John Silander** is Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UConn. His interests include biogeography and spatial processes, biology of invasive species, and forest ecology of temperate and tropical regions.

**Don Smith** is the former CT State Forester and currently serves as the executive director of the Connecticut Forestland Council.

**Steve Tessitore** is the Director of the Wetlands Management Section, Connecticut DEP Water Resources Division.

**Jeffrey Ward** is Chief Scientist and Station Forester with The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven.

## Registration

**The Registration fee is \$50.00.** Parking and lunch is included. Car pooling is encouraged!

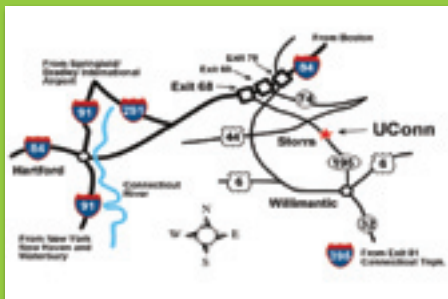
**Space is limited** – Registration by November 15, 2008 is recommended; walk-in registrations may not be available.

Make check payable to: **CFPA** with memo **"Forest Forum 2008"**. Send registration to:

CT Forest Forum  
C/o Ms. Terri Peters  
Connecticut Forest and Park Association  
16 Meriden Road  
Rockfall CT 06481-2961

## Directions

to Rome Ballroom, the University of Connecticut, Storrs CT



### On campus directions

Turn off Storrs Road - Rte 195 at Bolton Road (next to E.O. Smith High School) and park in the big lot behind the Rome Commons. Attendants will have parking passes to place on your dashboard.

## Public Benefits of Forests: What are they Worth?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferences for afternoon sessions (list 3 in order of preference):

Planning and Policy \_\_\_\_

Research and Forest Health \_\_\_\_

Public Forest Stewardship \_\_\_\_

Forest Producers \_\_\_\_

Forest Recreation \_\_\_\_

Urban Forestry \_\_\_\_

Would you like to be on the Goodwin Collaborative list serve?  
Yes \_\_ No \_\_

2 CEUs awarded at end of Forum for CT Certified Forest Practitioner: Yes\_\_ No\_\_



**Connecticut Forest and  
Park Association, Inc.**  
16 Meriden Road  
Rockfall, CT 06481

